

Why and what for the UNITY OF LEFT AND DEMOCRATIC FORCES ?

The CPI(M), in its tenth Congress has proposed to forge an 'unity of left and democratic forces'.

This is of course nothing new. In the past as well at times we observed them raising slogans of 'unity'. And on crucial examination, it is bound to be revealed that in the question of political aim and object, their latest slogan of 'unity' does not differ basically from the slogans of 'unity' that they raised on past occasions.

Regarding the character of the unity of left and democratic forces that they propose to build up, it has been observed that **"A third alternative"** (emphasis added) consisting of all the left and democratic forces in the country came to be looked upon as the only way to resolve the crisis facing the country because of the two major political parties" (Peoples' Democracy, 16.4.78). At present this 'third alternative' is the principal political object that they desire to realise. So we find most of their top ranking leaders, off and on are talking of this 'third alternative' its role and necessity etc. in most of their speeches they deliver now a days.

But what is the real political character of this 'third alternative' which is being attempted to be posed as an 'unity of left and democratic forces'? In a capitalist country, within a bourgeois parliamentary set up this slogan of 'third alternative' is bound to remind an intelligent reader of a 'three party system', very much akin to and of course with no basic political difference from the class point of view with the 'two party system' the anti-people bourgeois conspiratorial design for which the bourgeoisie in our country has been striving since a long time past and for installing which they have of late achieved an initial success in the last Lok Sabha Poll.

Students of history do

know it well that multi-party bourgeois parliamentary system following the course of history, with the development of monopoly stage of capitalism, in most of the advanced capitalist countries was transformed into 'two party system'. The bourgeoisie generally feels that in the existing political set up in capitalist countries, the 'two party system' can best serve them to perpetuate their class exploitative system. Yet in countries where due to socio-economic and political reasons, social democrats posing as 'left' with either 'communist' or 'socialist' nomenclature have appeared in the political scene as a political party to serve their class interest, the bourgeoisie may, instead of 'two party system', advocate the 'three party system', which of course is nothing but an extension of the idea of 'two party system' in the

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee Advised Complete Rest

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary of our Party was hospitalised following a heart attack a few days back. Although now released from hospital he has been advised complete rest by the eminent heart specialists attending on him and all his programmes and engagements, therefore, stand cancelled for some time.

existing condition. In our country, some of the bourgeois leaders have already advocated such a three party system. Just a few months following the last Lok Sabha poll, Mr. Biju Patnaik, once

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they are at least showing unity and 'friendly' understanding in so far as bringing down physical assaults on our party workers. Recently, in three concrete instances of murderous assaults on our leading comrades and supporters

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STUDENTS LATHICHARGED BY POLICE IN ORISSA

The post-graduate students of Utkal University have been waging movement to repeal the semester system of examination and the internal assessment of semester system since the

month of April defying all oppressions of the authorities and police. The University authorities are paying deaf ears to their demands and grievances. Recently, as a protest against the callous attitude

of the authority, the PG students of Vanivihar University and Ravenshaw College boycotted the examination scheduled on 21st and 24th June. Afterwards on 26th about 500 students, (Contd. to Page 8)

JANATA CPI(M) ATTACK ON SUCI WORKERS IN WEST BENGAL

Party deputation meets Chief Minister to demand appropriate steps and action

Dastardly attacks on our Party activists and supporters are on the increase in West Bengal. Whatever may be the mutual acrimonies between the State leaders of CPI(M) and Janata Party,

in two districts—Midnapore and Jalpaiguri, not only the CPI(M) and Janata Party organised a rmed attacks on our comrades with the help of rowdies and anti-socials but police administration also was conspicuous by its inaction to bring to book the culprits although the incidents

were reported to it on our behalf. Comrade Sukomal Dasguta, Secretary, West Bengal State Committee of our Party in a statement issued to the Press condemned these cowardly attacks and demanded immediate stern measures from the government to (Contd. to Page 8)

Dhubri District AIDS Conference held amidst great enthusiasm

On the 27th and 28th May last the Dhubri Dist. AIDS Conference was held at Dhubri with great enthusiasm. The Delegate session on 27th May largely attended by students of different schools and colleges all over the district was inaugurated by Comrade Kantimoy Deb,

Assam State Secretary of AIDS and was presided over by Comrade Monwar Hussain, a distinguished mass leader of the district. In his inaugural speech Comrade Deb observed that today's students' problem is an integral part of the problems of capitalist (Contd. to Page 7)

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Memorial Meeting

Saheed Minar Maidan • 5th August • 5 p. m.

Main Speaker : Comrade Pritish Chanda

President : Comrade Asutosh Banerjee

The Difference of CPI and CPI(M) in Their Attitude Towards Janata and Both Congress is Just as Between Tweedledum and Tweedledee

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advanced the idea of a 'three party system' where according to him, apart from the two alternatives, the Janata and Congress, the 'third alternative' would be a 'left' party. Even the other day, Mr. Sanjiva Reddy, the President of India advanced the idea of a very much identical 'three party system'. The logic behind this idea of developing a 'three party system' with a so-called 'left' party as the 'third alternative' is easily understandable. The bourgeoisie is clever enough to realise that it may hardly be possible to keep the real class character and object of their national alternatives of the 'two party system' concealed from the people and thereby deceive them for a long time. And, the moment their class character is exposed before the people, then what they will need to serve their class interest is a so-called 'left' force which is 'revolutionary' in its vocabulary and phrasemongering but out and out social democratic in character. This can then work as their 'third alternative', putting up which in power, they may perpetuate their class exploitative rule under its protection.

On analysing against this perspective, the real design of the 'third alternative' that our CPI(M) friends desire to build up under the cover of the so-called slogan of the unity of left and democratic forces is bound to be amply clear to any one. Our CPI(M) friends should be happy to note that in the matter of developing their 'third alternative', apart from a section of the bourgeoisie, they will also have the blessings of the President of the country!

The character of their third alternative becomes more clear from their attitude towards Janata and Congress vis-a-vis, the competition of their so-called unity of left and democratic forces.

We know it very well that no sensible man can have any illusion regarding the class character of the ruling Janata party. In spite of their tall

claim of restoration of democracy, what the people experience is just the reverse. Since their coming to power in the centre and some states, they are not only curtailing democracy and democratic rights but also taking recourse to all brutal measures to suppress the legitimate democratic movement of the masses.

Already three hundred people had to sacrifice their lives within one month for participating in legitimate mass movements in different parts of the country during the present 'democratic' regime of the Janata Party. Even the CPI(M) which usually criticises Janata Government's economic policy but most often praise their attitude in the question of democracy and democratic rights, has to observe "...its commitment to democracy is constrained by the class outlook which guides its leadership" (People's Democracy 23.4.78). But in spite of that, they "look upon the Janata Party as an ally of the left and democratic forces in the struggle for democracy." (Ibid) From their attitude towards Janata party it is clear that while criticising the Janata party on this or that question they desire to maintain a 'friendly' tie with them. Experiences tell, that they always reflect such an attitude towards the ruling party. None should however try to discover any apparent dichotomy in their attitude towards the party in power. In fact there is no such dichotomy nor any two-facedness in the question of their attitude towards the ruling party.

In the parliamentary politics any two parties of the bourgeoisie may oppose each other, even at times one may organise agitational movement against the other. One fights the other with one object and i.e. to decide who will go to governmental power and best serve the class.

In fact this is the rule of the game in the arena of bourgeois parliamentary politics. But as their primary object is to serve the interest of the ruling class, in the question of basic policy and class object, they see eye to eye with each other and maintain a friendly tie between themselves. So this explains why our CPI(M) friends while being critical of the ruling Janata Party, call it a 'friendly' party and even look upon them as an ally of their 'left and democratic' unity. This also explains why in spite of the fact that the people at a peak of tremendous anti-Congress wrath and hatred, threw Congress out from the governmental power for the oppressive rule that it let loose on them throughout last 30 years and particularly during Emergency which surpassed all records of tyranny and despite the fact that Janata has already betrayed its out and out reactionary bourgeois class character, our CPI(M) friends while characterising the left and democratic force that would comprise their so-called 'unity' have claimed that "the great bulk of the political forces which can be characterised as left and democratic at the present are behind the **Janata, the Congress** (emphasis added) and other political parties and they will have to be politically won over to the left and democratic front and its programme." And regarding Reddy Congress, in the question of accommodating them in their 'left and democratic unity' Mr. Basavapunniah once observed (People's Democracy April 30, 78), "However, there are 'elements and groups in it who not only are against authoritarianism of Indira Gandhi but also found to take a radical position on many socio-economic issues. There is no doubt that these elements have to be culti-

vated with a view to winning them over to the left and democratic programme."

Even the regional, communal and parochial forces like DMK, AIDMK, AKALI DAL, will have their seats reserved in the said unity. If anyone refuses to believe us, we would ask him, to go through the political resolution of the Tenth Congress of the CPI(M), where it has been stated that the left and democratic forces include the democratic forces like the AIDMK and DMK in Tamil Nadu, and Akali party in Punjab. The CPI(M) hold the view that "these parties though they include some local landlords and bourgeois elements.....play a helpful role in the democratic movement." Perhaps none will any more bear any illusion regarding the 'left and democratic character' of such an unity! Moreover, one must not fail to take note of their shifting of attitude even towards Indira Gandhi. In the last Lok Sabha poll, when they fought against her in alliance with Janata-CFD combine, they had only one slogan which they raised in the highest pitch of their voice and that is to defeat the dictatorship of one and a half person! (meaning thereby Indira Gandhi and her son Sanjoy Gandhi). None but our CPI(M) friends only can enlighten us, how and when, she has again become a 'democrat' or otherwise, how can they now observe that in the question of defending democracy if necessary they should make alliance even with Indira Gandhi? We know that in the question of their respective attitudes towards the Janata Party and Congress, the CPI and the CPI(M) strongly criticise one another as if there is some qualitative difference in their assessment of their political lines, whereas in reality if there is at all

any difference it is between tweedledum and tweedledee. For while the CPI recognises a democratic 'section' within the Congress, the CPI(M) on the other hand claims the existence of not such a section but democratic 'elements'. And in regard to the Janata Party their respective claims are just the reverse. Let them continue their fight, as long as they like over 'section' and 'elements'. But we have to ask them only one question—is it not a fact that their politics and the attitude that they reflect towards the ruling bourgeois parties are mostly responsible for creating a smokescreen of confusion regarding the politics of these bourgeois parties in the country, and shielding their reactionary class character from the people thereby weakening their struggle against their main enemy?

Now, to analyse and correctly grasp the present attitude of the CPI(M) towards the Janata Party vis-a-vis Congress and Mrs. Gandhi we think one must have some further deep insight. One thing we have earlier showed in our analysis that the CPI(M) due to the very base political line that they pursue, desire to maintain a friendly tie with the party in power, whoever it may be. In the past when Mrs. Gandhi was in power, we found them to maintain a similar tie with her. But no sooner than the bourgeoisie shifted their support from her and backed the Janata Party to power, they at once switched over their allegiance to the Janata Party. And the Janata Party, the constituents of which according to them, "Were voicing their opposition to the ruling Congress from an extreme rightist point of view, essentially representing the same vested interests which the ruling Congress party represents" overnight became "less dangerous", "more radical than the Congress and a 'friendly' party!"

But what is the political situation in the country at present? From its very birth the Janata Party is

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Notwithstanding their outward fire the CPI(M) is becoming more and more soft towards Congress(I)

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a conglomeration of different groups, factions and parties lacking in cohesion and solidarity that usually a political party does possess. Recently even a Janata official has observed with sarcasm "Janata party is like a kaleidoscope. Every time you shake the tube you get a new pattern. Next time you may even get a new party." (July Issue)

Now as days are passing there is manifestations of deepening crisis within the party due to growing internal squabbles and infights among these different factions. A question now haunts even the staunchest supporter of the Party, how long the Janata Party at the Centre will survive? In such a situation we most often find the CPI(M) to observe that 'the situation is so much fluid,' or that 'no alliance is permanent' etc. etc. None would however fail to note the underlying significance of all these observations if one carefully notes the subtle change in their attitude that is now taking place towards the Janata Party vis-a-vis Indira Gandhi. For while maintaining still a friendly tie with the Janata Party they are already manifesting a growing tone of criticism against them whereas their attitude towards Mrs. Gandhi to that extent is becoming more and more soft. As because the anti-Indira feeling is still now much strong and deep among the people they dare not vocally ventilate openly in public their growing pro-Indira attitude, but yet one must not fail to miss the point if one critically examines their recent observations and comments. For when even they raise hue and cry demanding prosecution of Indira Gandhi for all her heinous misdeeds that she perpetrated against the people, particularly during Emergency, they in their bid to console her do not

fail to remind that their fight is not against any individual but against his or her politics.

Shall we therefore understand that apprehending lest some change takes place in the political scene, they, while maintaining still a friendly tie with the ruling Janata Party desire to keep their door open so as to develop good relation with others whom they count as the future contender for power?

And is it for this reason, that we find them hobnobbing with either Indira Congress or the other Congress—whichever they consider as strong contender for power in place of the Janata Party?

Apart from this, their coming to governmental power in West Bengal and Tripura and the existing political situation has also given birth to some 'new idea' in their brain. They now think of another possibility. They meditate, why they would not themselves endeavour to emerge as an 'alternative' in the national plane within the existing parliamentary set up!

Their desire is particularly strengthened by the fact that a section of the ruling class too prefers as we have mentioned earlier, a "three-party system" in which the third party would be a 'left' party desirous of serving their class interest under the cover of 'left' vocabularies and 'revolutionary' phrase mongering. In spite of this, they realise it very well that any effort aimed at fulfilling their dream must begin before the 'two party system' gets a firm root in the country. So it is quite likely that they should choose the present moment as to be the most appropriate time for raising their slogan of the 'Third alternative'. Moreover, perhaps none understands better than they that they must have to seriously endeavour to earn the full confidence and support of the ruling class more so of mono-

poly houses or otherwise their cherished dream would ever remain unfulfilled. And one must accept the fact that they have shown an imaginative brain in their efforts to win over the confidence of the ruling class and the monopoly houses. On the one hand in West Bengal and Tripura where they are in power, they with a view to providing the ruling class with an unfettered scope for smooth running of their class exploitative rule are trying utmost to arrest any possible growth of the legitimate democratic movement of the working people against the ruling class and vested interest on all fronts. And on the other hand, in states where they are not in the Governmental power but of course trying hard to come to power with a view to draw the attention of the ruling class they ostensibly try to organise agitational movement wherever possible, the purpose of which is of course within any intelligent reader's guess. That the ruling class and the monopoly houses have correctly grasped the underlying tone of all these clever moves and that they have their full confidence on the CPI(M) is amply clear from various observations and comments made by the spokesmen of different Chambers of Commerce and published in the bourgeois press. Even the other day, the Statesman, a press belonging to a powerful monopoly house of the country, on the occasion of the completion of one year of "Left Front's" rule in West Bengal, published a leader expressing full satisfaction regarding "A year of Marxist's Rule" where too it was claimed that ".....the Government has been widely accepted as moderate, business like and well intentioned. Political stability and administrative order under Marxist rule compare favourably with conditions under the Janata regime at the Centre and different

states". (Statesman, 21.6.78) Perhaps further comment is redundant.

But what our CPI(M) friends still lack and what no doubt stands in their way of emerging as a national alternative, is a popular support throughout the entire country. So at the moment what they need, to cross over this limitation, is a political platform of different parties which may guarantee their future election prospect and help them emerging as an alternative in the national plane. Therefore what they desire to build up under cover of their slogan of unity of left and democratic forces is, in reality a platform of electoral unity where a broad spectrum of bourgeois and petty-bourgeois political parties, be it the Janata or Congress, DMK, AIDMK or Akali all may be accommodated under the cover of the nomenclature 'left and democratic'. In fact this is also nothing brand new. For experiences tell us that in the past whenever they raised the slogan for unity or even when the objective situation pressed upon them to join in a real political united front of left and democratic parties they did so, with one sole object and i.e. to secure maximum gains in the arena of parliamentary politics. Guided by this pragmatic consideration and political expediency, with a view to reaping a maximum dividend in parliamentary politics, they do not hesitate even to enter in any unprincipled opportunistic alliance or adjustment with any political force irrespective of its politics or ideology. Their one time slogan for 'class based front' or 'unity on specific issues' and their opportunistic alliances in the last Lok Sabha polls and Assembly elections—all these were aimed at achieving this political object.

So, one thing must be distinctly clear to the left and democratic minded people of the country. The 'unity' that our CPI(M) friends desire to build up is an electoral 'unity'. As to its basic

political purpose and objective, it has not even the minimum semblance of and is fundamentally different from a real political united front of left and democratic parties—the most powerful instrument of our people in the present democratic phase of their struggle, to fight against their common enemy, the ruling capitalist class of the country. The people must realise that no other 'unity' of political parties, short of a political united front of left and democratic parties with a common agreed programme and a code of conduct can help them realise their political object through struggle. For it is only through an all out development of sustained and mighty united struggle of the people under the correct guidance of a political united front of left and democratic parties that it will be ultimately possible to skip over the present democratic phase of the struggle step by step and finally create conditions for developing revolutionary struggle with the object of overthrowing the present exploitative capitalist system and the state. In fact if such a powerful instrument can be developed and properly handled, then the role and character of the social democratic forces—the compromising force between labour and capital being exposed—the masses can be freed from their influences and organised under the banner of the genuine revolutionary party.

And in the process of struggle, if correctly developed, conditions may be created for the emergence of the new and higher united front, namely the proletarian united front, so that under its very leadership with the exhaustion of the present democratic phase, struggles can be lifted to a higher plane with the sole object of achieving socialist revolution.

So, the revolutionary party is conscious of its bounden duty to forge the unity of left and democratic parties on the basis of a

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Leftism and One year

The CPI(M) led 'Left Front' Government in West Bengal has now completed its one year of office. The Government as well as most of the constituents of the 'Left Front' are claiming with much fan fare the achievements of the 'Left Front' Government during this one year.

In a publicity captioned "Left Front Government defends the interest of the vast masses" issued by the Government of West Bengal on 21st June in almost all the dailies, a list of the achievements with explanatory notes has been published. Lest anybody call them immodest they have expressed their dissatisfaction also, "The Left Front Government is not satisfied with either the progress achieved so far or with the speed of work."

But before we take up examining the real significance of those achievements—whom are those serving in reality—let us first of all determine as to what should be the criteria for judging the success or failure of a "Left Government" in office in an exploitative capitalist country like ours.

Not even a naive would claim that the rule of capital remaining intact, capitalist state remaining intact, capitalist system remaining intact—capitalist exploitation will cease with the assumption of governmental power of a capitalist state by a left party or even a genuine communist party. Thanks to them, of course, the spokesmen of the 'Left Front' Government and parties either have not made any such wild claim.

Naturally, so long capitalist exploitation will continue to exist, all the concomitant evils of capitalist exploitation—toiling people's miseries, privation—will continue to exist—the fundamental problems of people's life cannot be solved altogether.

But this does not mean that no relief can be provided to the people despite this limitation. If a genuine left party while in the governmental power in a bourgeois state guides itself with a genuine pro-people outlook then it definitely can provide some relief to the people. But even when providing relief to the toiling people what is that outlook that should guide a left party in the office of the government? Should it be guided by the outlook followed by a bourgeois party? Our party, as far back as in the year 1962, being guided and led by our departed

great leader has set a few guiding principles in this regard. Our readers are well conversant with that so we do not feel it necessary to discuss those in details here. But let us recapitulate in brief only the principles:

As because a genuine left party knows that without the revolutionary overthrow of this exploitative bourgeois state machine the fundamental problems of people's life cannot be solved, its sole aim and object should therefore, while in a bourgeois government, be to grab this opportunity and try to accelerate the process of revolution by speedily organising and preparing the toiling people for the ultimate battle. And for that it should do the following:

1) It should help and encourage the legitimate democratic movements and the class struggles by keeping those free from police interference;

2) It should boldly and courageously resist the illegitimate and illegal activities of the police and bureaucracy;

3) It should try to adopt those reform measures and try to provide relief to the toiling people in such a manner that this, together with giving some relief to the people helps to strengthen the legitimate democratic movements and the class struggles;

(4) It should try to establish a neutral and honest administration free from corruption; with their own conduct and behaviour and by following some higher principles of life and code of conduct they should try to project a higher moral standard

before the down trodden people;

(5) It should always try to keep the people free from all sorts of bourgeois parliamentary illusions.

Judging from this outlook have we found any reflection of left politics in the policies and activities pursued by the 'Left Front' Government? Not to speak of helping and encouraging the legitimate democratic movements and class struggles of the toiling people the 'Left Front' Government is not only discouraging but actively obstructing them as well.

Why we say this? Let us see what Mr. Jyoti Basu said on the very day of the victory celebration of the 'Left Front' Government on 27th June 1978, "Class differences and class conflicts are natural in a capitalist society" and the "Left Front" Government "in the interest of West Bengal's economy" would "seek to ensure that the conflicts do not intensify" that the right to strike should be used by the workers as the 'ultimate weapon'.

Pursuant to this approach the 'Left Front' Government did not only not reiterate in its policy declaration that 'police shall not interfere in legitimate democratic movements' but what is more the Chief minister Mr. Jyoti Basu at a conference of the police officials gave them the 'guide line' that police should go to maintain law and order. The administration too made no mistake in reading the real intention of the government. It is behaving in the same manner to defend 'law and order' as it was doing during the Congress Government. In fact, cases of police interference in legitimate trade union activities are on the increase as days are passing.

Not only this, CITU, the trade union wing of CPI (M) is helping, this way or that way, the police administration and the management of industries to oppose and obstruct

the legitimate movement of the struggling workers. In our pages we have already cited many examples of such treacherous role of CITU.

The CITU is playing another nefarious game. They are breaking unions belonging to other organisations by means as followed by the Congress. Let us quote "Frontier", dated June 24, 1978. During the first United Front regime, the dominating party showed how pipe-guns could win workers' allegiance. Now the working class is no longer treated as vanguard but a reserve force to impose levy, attend rallies for purposes not known to the participants and identify their interests with those of the babus against their will..... The Marxists were paid back in their own coin after the 1972 general elections and during the Emergency when CITU lost 300 trade unions to storm troopers who are bidding their time.

"CITU people are recovering their lost paradise with much effort as some roughs and a section of labour aristocrats quickly changed their colour in the changed situation. But what CITU wants is absolute monopoly and so it has started a campaign to encircle others."

In our pages we have also showed how the 'Left Front' Government is making the workers scapegoat to cover up the failure of the government to solve power problem. Santaldih today looks like a battle-field with mobilisation of a task force backed by Eastern Frontier Rifles and 200 women police. The CPI(M) led 'Left Front' Government has virtually declared a state of war against 1100 workers of Santaldih Project. It is further alleged by the workers that a plan to recruit 1000 partisans is brewing to revitalise the CITU led union there.

Whom are they actually serving? We know that

in a class divided society like ours there cannot be any condition in which interest of both the classes is protected. But the 'Left Front' Government has claimed so. Let us see what the 'Left Front' Government says on the occasion of the completion of its first year in office:

Unnecessarily resorting to strikes and gheraos can lead to costly loss in man-hours and industrial productivity. The 'Left Front' Government fully appreciates this point. That is why it has shown great restraint in approaching any industrial dispute between labour and management in West Bengal. While committed to protecting the interest of the workers and their democratic and trade union rights, the government has also assured management of all its legitimate rights under the existing law of the land and has urged upon them to consider sympathetically the legitimate demands of the workers. It has encouraged both management and labour to eschew the path of violence and confrontation and to come and sit at the conference table to thrash out their difference. The present government is happy to note that this policy has already yielded good results by ushering in an era of peace and amity on the industrial front. It is an accepted fact that the industrial climate currently prevailing in the state of West Bengal is healthier, more peaceful, more stable than in many other states in India today. Let us see what peace they have brought in the life of the working people. "From July to December 1977, there were 132 strikes against 140 lock outs, 183 lay-offs of which 90 continued even after December and 60 closures including 5 permanent ones. The duration of strike in each case was miserably low in comparison to the lock-outs and closures.... The average duration of lock-outs in 1977 was 56.4 days against only 10 days in cases of

of 'Left Front' Government

strikes. Man-days lost per lock-out increased from 17,819 in 1974 to 40,217 in 1977 while the loss per strike came down from 7350 in 1976 to 5895 in 1977. The Front's first six months witnessed bumper lock-outs affecting 89365 workers inflicting a loss of 48,34,973 mandays. Strikes never touched the fringe of those figures. The trend has not reversed in the first half of 1978. On the contrary, employers are maintaining the 1977 tempo of disputes."

[Frontier—July 1, 1978]

Moreover, the "Left Front" Government wants to show that their neutral attitude in the industrial field has brought about this peaceful atmosphere in the state. But it is not helping and encouraging the legitimate democratic and trade union movements. As a result, to quote Link, dated June 18, 1978, "The result of such neutrality is being seen in the incidence of strikes and lock-outs. At the moment, about 79,000 workers are jobless in West Bengal because of strikes and lock-outs and closures. This number is in addition to the thousands of workers rendered jobless during the earlier regime. In all cases of strikes, lock-outs and closures, the behaviour of the employers proves that they have nothing to be afraid of the government." Do all these signify that the CPI(M) led "Left Front" Government has changed the industrial scene in favour of the working people? No, on the contrary all their efforts are helping the employer class.

These signify that the CPI(M) led "Left Front" Government is working as the compromising force between labour and capital in order to subserve the interest of the capitalist class in power to the detriment of the toiling peoples' interest. That is why the bourgeoisie is all praise—the chairman of the Bengal Chambers of Commerce calls Mr. Jyoti Basu an able administrator, the

bourgeois dailies shower praises on the performances of the "Left Front" every day.

And they boastfully claim such a performance as creditable. But who can be proud of such a performance? A genuine revolutionary party whose aim is to emancipate the down trodden people from the grips and tentacles of capitalist exploitation? Certainly not. Only a bourgeois party or a social democratic party masquerading as a left party, as a Marxist-Leninist party that aims at protecting the interest of the capitalist class, particularly at this hour of crisis of the system, to the detriment of the interest of the toiling people can claim this as a creditable performance.

Let us now turn our attention to the rural situation. Before that let us see what the "Left Front" Government claims to be its achievements on this score: The "Left Front" Government has not limited itself to mere expression of pious sentiments. Gone are the days when bargadars can be freely evicted from their lands by the landlords. It has already passed legislation safeguarding the rights and interests of sharecroppers. This measure though just a part of the Government's comprehensive land reforms programme, has given new hope and confidence to millions of sharecroppers.

But what is actually their performance in the rural side? Let us quote from our earlier analysis here. "Three important questions are inter-related and inter-dependent here. They are: 1) The land reform measures, 2) The harvesting policy and 3) the food policy or the policy of procurement of paddy. In a capitalist economy as of ours, these policies relate to production, distribution and fair share to labour.

"Before dealing with the particular measures that the 'Left Front'

Government has brought and which they laud as progressive, let us have a hurried glance at the real state of affairs in the countryside. During the long thirty years' of Congress rule, a vicious circle of vested interest comprising the jotedars and other vested interest in league with O.C., B.D.O. and J. L.R.O. has not only grown but has become so much powerful that even the Food Minister of the 'Left Front' Government had to concede that the government feared them. Not only this, the earlier Congress Government as also the present government both have confessed that because of the reign of terror and persecution of the rural vested interest, most of the sharecroppers could not record their right in the settlement record of the state. According to government statistics which should always be taken with a grain of salt only about 8 lakhs could record their right out of an estimated 35 lakhs of sharecroppers in the state. Why they could not do it? They could not do it because of two reasons. First, because of the manipulation of records by the government officials bribed by the jotedars and secondly, because of abject poverty and absolute dependence of the poor peasants on the jotedars they did not dare incurring the displeasure of the rich on the apprehension of losing their right as sharecroppers in their lands. So, except in pockets of organised peasant movements, the poor peasants, agricultural labourers and the sharecroppers do not dare challenge the rich peasants.....

"In the concrete context of this reality, let us now see what are the specific policies of the 'Left Front' Government in the countryside and what are their real worth.

"The truth will be revealing if one takes a brief account of this government's land reforms policy which it advertises

as something unprecedented in our country! What are these reform measures?

".....in the last session of the assembly, the land Revenue Minister brought a bill containing four amendments to the old Act.....these are the amendments that have been brought by the 'Left Front' Government: (a) the onus of proving that the tiller is not a share-cropper will lie with the owner of the land, (b) if it is not proved that the land has been tilled by hired labour or members of the family or the owner it will be proved that the tillers of the land are the share-croppers, (c) The share-croppers are to record their rights and (d) receipts are to be given, without fail, to the share-croppers by the owners. But this is nothing new as almost on the same line reform measures were brought by the Congress but to no effect.....will it be difficult for the jotedars to extract, as they usually do from the share-croppers, to show as a legal document and by false evidence that they were not share-croppers but labours employed on some specific terms and conditions? This has been the usual practice for the last thirty years. Secondly, what would happen to the overwhelming number of share-croppers who could not record their right? Do the jotedars feel any sort of legal compulsion to accept them as share-croppers? Or the entire matter is left to their good wishes? Thirdly, is it also difficult to prove on pain of eviction that the share-croppers are either "hired labour" or the relatives of the owner of the land and thus elude the law? Fourthly, destitution of the peasantry remaining, unemployment and want of regular and assured jobs throughout the year remaining, remaining the dominance of the clique of rural vested interest can any change be brought about by change of laws and depending on bureaucracy in

the rural scene? No, it cannot. The 'Left Front' dares not touch the vested interest nor is it in any way willing to encourage and patronise the mass initiative and the organised movement of the poor and middle peasants. Rather it shows its obsessive interest in keeping 'law and order' in the rural side just as in the industrial field. The 'peaceful' revolution without touching the vested interest, without organising mass initiative and legitimate movement, the 'Left Front' preaches and practices and asks the people to put faith on. What difference, notwithstanding high sounding vocabularies and tall claims has it got in outlook and approach from those of the Congress and Janata Party? The most astounding feat of the 'Left Front' Government is its land revenue policy. It has exempted 4 and 6 acres of lands in irrigated and non-irrigated areas but has not extended this exemption beyond the current year to those middle class families, who because of 'partition' of properties or destitution will come under this category on the so-called plea of plugging the loophole of land transfer by the jotedars. Secondly, it has imposed enhanced revenue by 150 p.c. compared to 1969-70 at a flat rate over the exemption limit. It has not even accepted the proposal that our party placed to the second United Front Government of 1969-70 for introducing a graded rate of revenue proportionate to landholdings, that is to say, higher the landholdings higher the rate of revenue or taxation. This is what even the bourgeois economy calls a 'progressive taxation' but not acceptable to the 'Left Front' Government. Surely it can claim to surpass the branded bourgeois parties on the 'principle of equity'!"

What about the harvesting policy of the 'Left Front' Government—did it help the poor peasants, share-croppers or the jotedars? It raised the

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The CPI(M) Led 'Left Front' Government under cover of High Sounding Slogans is trying to befool the people and pursuing a pro-Jotedar pro-vested interest policy

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slogan: He who has tilled the land, shall have the right to harvest. On the face of it, the slogan sounds very good. But did it serve the interest of the share-croppers? We sounded a note of caution as early as in December which had been proved true by the subsequent events. This slogan did not provide any guarantee to the 27 lakhs out of a total of 35 lakhs of bargadars who could not record their rights as bargadars—the government too did not provide any guarantee. The poor peasants, share-croppers expected that the "Left Front" would do them some justice and see that the jotedars could not deprive them of their legitimate share. But their hope melted into the air when they found that the jotedars protected under this slogan as also by the police took hold of the grains and legitimise their illegitimate claims, and they, the poor peasants, share-croppers were asked to maintain 'law and order' by the Chief Minister and the President of the "Left Front" Committee, both members of the Polit Bureau of the CPI(M). Not only this, the CPI(M) leaders and workers gave full support and backing and arranged police support to the jotedars and vested interest in depriving the just claims and rights of the poor peasants and share-croppers. They were being arrested and harassed by the police and the administration under over of maintaining "law and order". On whom the "Left Front" Government left the responsibility of determining the actual tillers? The JLRO, BDO and the OC and who do they serve—the poor peasants, share-croppers, or they are in the service of the rich peasants and rural vested interest? Were the answer unknown to the "Left Front" ministers and more particularly to

the Land Revenue Minister a veteran leader of CPI(M)'s peasant front? What steps they took to safeguard the rights and interests of the poor peasants and agricultural labourers? They constituted Block Level Committee with the Front's constituents and the CPI, the Congress and the Janata Party along with the BDO, JLRO and OC, the BDO having the statutory power. They excluded our party.

Laying bare the real intention of the formation of these Block Level Committees Comrade Sukomal Dasgupta, Secretary West Bengal State Committee of our Party in a press statement said, "Had the 'Left Front' Government been really pro-people and willing to safeguard the interest of the poor peasants, it would have, 1) attempted to build up organised peasants movements against the notorious chain and unite all those left and democratic parties and organisations that carry the traditions and have stood the test of democratic mass movements; 2) unequivocally declared that police shall not interfere in the legitimate democratic mass movements; 3) come forward to implement the decisions taken in favour of the poor peasants bargadars, and the lower middle peasants depending not on police and bureaucracy but on peasants' organisations built up through mass movements. But the 'Left Front' Government has completely given up the path of mass struggle and has taken recourse to depending on that very police and administration which move hand in glove with the jotedars and vested interests. This proves once again that under cover of high slogans, it in reality, is: 1) trying to befool the people and pursuing a pro-jotedar policy at the cost of organised struggles of the poor peasants against

the jotedars, 2) out to handle this powerful but hated chain of the jotedar-police-administration combine in their petty party interest just like the Congress and 3) trying to muster-strong the massive support of the jotedars behind the Government."

The "Left Front" Government is clamouring much about the introduction of the Employment Assistance Scheme. It has allotted Rs. 9 crores to provide 1,50,000 unemployed out of 20 lakhs unemployed registered in the employment exchanges. This does not include the vast army of rural and urban unemployed who do not register their names with the Employment Exchanges. This too, the "Left Front" Government has done not by reducing police budget—which had been on the contrary raised by Rs. 10 crores—not by reducing expences on general administration, but by enhancing taxes to the tune of Rs. 62 crores in two instalments. It is by putting an extra burden of Rs. 62 crores on the shoulder of the toiling people they are paying back Rs. 9 crores as unemployment dole to seal their lips—and this is what they take credit about! Indeed, how noble and pro-people they are!

While presenting the budget proposals, the Finance Minister Mr. Ashoke Mitra claimed that in rural areas the ministry had created in four months one crore jobs (man days) at a cost of Rs. 11 crores. Which means a spending of Rs. 11 for creating one job (man day). Food for work programme assured Rs. 4 as daily wage. Thus Rs. 7 came by way of administrative costs for creating one job (man day). Moreover, one crore jobs for 40 lakh agricultural workers means two and a half days' work for each in 120 days. And this the "Left Front" Government claims as a novel achievement of the Government in improving

"the lot of the poor in West Bengal".

We have in our previous issue showed how inhumanly the 'Left Front' Government is treating the Refugees from Dandakarnya, how the 'Left Front' Government just like the previous Congress Governments at the Centre as well as at the state and the present Janata Government at the Centre is trying to shirk off its responsibility towards them and how it has even let loose its police force and 'Left Front' volunteers including that of CPI(M) to drive out the refugees from West Bengal. But in its publicity the 'Left Front' Government has said, "Though fully sympathetic to their needs" etc. etc. and ".....it has adopted measures, in conjunction with the Centre, to take them back to Dandakaranya and rehabilitate them there again." Hypocrisy! Thy name is CPI(M) led 'Left Front' Government!

The CPI(M) led 'Left Front' Government has claimed "At the grass root level the Government has made arrangements for opening 1000 new primary schools and has proposed to set up another 1000 primary schools from 1979. These new schools will cater to 1,50,000 additional students and provide employments to 3000 new teachers." But they have withdrawn recognition of 1000 schools affecting more than 30,000 students and about 3000 teachers!

It further claimed, "The Government has taken several measures to eradicate corruption from educational institutions"—how? We know they have superseded the Board of Secondary Education, West Bengal and innumerable school committees and appointed administrators of their choice there. They have taken away the autonomy of the 4 universities including that of the Calcutta University which even the branded bourgeois party like Congress dared not in the past.

This was done on the ostensible plea of fighting malpractices and corrup-

tion there. But the irony of the situation is that the newly constituted councils consists mostly of those former members of the superseded bodies against whom there were serious charges. Do all these measures indicate that the 'Left Front' Government is seriously contemplating to eradicate corruption or do these indicate their zeal to capture these institutions to reap petty party interest? And the CPI(M) led 'Left Front' Government talks of eradicating corruption from the educational field!

Naturally, from the above analysis it is clear that neither the policies nor the activities of the 'Left Front' Government has shown any reflection of Leftism. Let alone encouraging and helping the legitimate democratic movements and the class struggles the present Government is directly discouraging and obstructing those. That is why despite unbearable exploitation, oppression and deprivation no mass movement is developing in this state. As a result, during the tenure of this government in a relatively peaceful climate free from movement an unchallenged opportunity of exploitation has opened up before the owner class—a scope that no other government run by the branded bourgeois parties could provide in the past.

Secondly, instead of controlling the illegitimate and illegal behaviour and attitude of the Police and administration toward the people's legitimate movements this Government is pampering them.

Thirdly, the very little relief measures that had been arranged during the last one year—it was used with the help of the administration openly in petty party interest and was done in such a manner that the mass movements and the class struggles instead of getting strengthened got discouraged. Fourthly, let alone establishing an honest, neutral corruption-free administration the present government by their beha-

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What for Left and Democratic Unity ?

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common agreed programme and a code of conduct. And it is being conscious of its historical responsibility of carrying forward the task of revolution that our party time and again in the past moved to the different left and democratic parties including CPI(M) with the proposal of building up such a political united front of left and democratic parties. And still now being conscious of the responsibility entrusted upon a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party we urge upon all the left and democratic parties to forge such a political unity of left and democratic parties so that the oppressed and exploited people of the country may be provided with the necessary instrument for developing their united struggle against their common enemy. But we are constrained to note that it is the disruptive move of the big left parties like the CPI and CPI(M) emanated from their election oriented parliamentary politics that is solely responsible for still depriving the people of such a platform of their common united action against their common enemy.

In conclusion we urge upon not only the fighting toiling people but also the rank and file and supporters of the CPI(M) who may have their faith on leftism to realise the real motive and worth of the so-called slogan of 'unity of left and democratic forces' as raised by the CPI(M).

When SUCI, the genuine revolutionary party on our soil views a united front of left and democratic parties the possibility of the growth of a struggle against capitalism with the ultimate object of transforming the struggle through stages into revolutionary struggle to bring an end to capitalism, with the object of achieving of socialist revolution the CPI(M)'s call of 'unity' is aimed at giving a lease of life to the present capitalist system and the state. It is a fake

slogan of 'unity', in reality being a political exigency or expedient in bourgeois parliamentary politics just to reap maximum dividend out of it at the cost of people's cause and their movement.

It is a fact that in the past at times we observed them participating in movement along with other left and democratic parties though of course this too was guided by their object of securing dividend in parliamentary politics. But at present when their primary object is to earn the confidence of the ruling bourgeoisie so as to emerge as an alternative in the national plane, they reflect an out and out anti-movement attitude. Their attitude to people's movement particularly in West Bengal and Tripura where they are in governmental power, will glaringly testify this observation. The bourgeoisie too is well satisfied with their attitude and activities and find in them the 'qualities' that a party should have to protect their class interest under 'left' vocabularies and 'revolutionary' phrasemongers. For obvious reasons, they are well disposed towards them in the question of choosing them as an alternative in the national plane. It is therefore understandable that their 'unity of left and democratic forces' aimed at emerging as such an alternative, will have their blessings.

It is only SUCI, founded and reared by **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh**, a great leader and teacher of the proletariat which being conscious of the historical necessity of forging a genuine political unity of left and democratic parties, firmly stands against this deception practised by the CPI(M).

We urge upon the left and democratic minded people to come forward and organise themselves under the banner of Marxism-Leninism held aloft by SUCI, strengthen it and extend their whole hearted support, to fulfil this historical task.

'Left Front' Government's one year

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viours and activities have degraded the standard of morality and tarnished much whatever little respect about leftism was there in the minds of the people.

Fifthly, by their outlook in running a Government and their propaganda that they will be able to bring a fundamental change in the society if they can assume power at the Centre the CPI(M) is helping to import parliamentary illusion in the minds of the people.

If we take into account the question of relieving the burden of the crisis, notwithstanding the limitations, we do not find any sign of their success. They have not applied Essential Commodities Act against a solitary blackmarketeer, hoarder, speculator in order to check the unprecedented rise of prices of essential commodities. But the ministry feels no qualms to send police to suppress legitimate movements of the toiling people. This year too the poor peasants, share-croppers did not get their due share of crop—this year too the jotedars letting loose a reign of terror with the help of police and hired goondas and with the backing of the administration took away the harvest of the poor peasants.

Workers are being retrenched, they are being deprived of their legitimate wage. And the Government instead of taking any action against these is actively discouraging the trade union movements on the one hand while on the other assuring the capitalists of all help and co-operation in perpetuating their rule of ruthless exploitation and oppression. This Government has enhanced the DA of the Government employees but under its cover is conspiring to subtly bringing down the retirement age. In the same manner this government has taken away the autonomy of the educational institutions. This Government has allotted Rs. 9 crores towards unemployment allowance and claiming it as an un-

precedented step has pressed upon the shoulder of the half-starved, half-clad toiling people a burden of further Rs. 62 crores. Of course, the Government can claim novelty at least in this respect. Though the Government has declared that it has released all political prisoners but on the plea of legal complications is still keeping many workers of other political parties including ours behind the bars.

The "Left Front" Government is claiming that it has established a neutral, corruption-free administration but it has used this administration to rig the last Panchayat poll in West Bengal.

The "Left Front" Government is withdrawing cases against persons accused of rape and even against known anti-socials and goondas on the plea of non-availability of witnesses.

AIDSO Conference

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exploitation over the toiling millions of our country. He stressed that student's movements shall have to be based on higher cultural and ethical standard and must be transformed into an indispensable part of the revolutionary movement of the toiling millions aiming at the overthrow of this exploitative capitalist set up. He also opined that to attain this higher cultural-ethical standard and the correct base political line of the movement it is of paramount importance to grasp the immortal teachings and thoughts of **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh** the great leader of the proletariat.

On the 25th May evening the open session was held at Assam Sangha Hall at Dhubri which proved too small to accommodate the enthusiastic crowd of students who came to listen to the illuminating speeches of **Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee**, General Secretary of AIDSO and the main speaker of the meeting and of **Comrade Jainal Abedin**, MLA who was the chief guest in the meeting.

So, from the above it is amply clear what the CPI(M) led "Left Front" Government really aims at achieving and who they are serving.

It is our earnest appeal to the toiling people and those among CPI(M) cadres who earnestly want to end the miseries of the toiling people to pause and ponder as to what politics the leaders of the CPI(M) are pursuing and who they are serving.

They should try to realise that today it is only SUCI, the party founded and reared by the great leader of the proletariat **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh** that is upholding the banner of leftism and revolutionary politics. They should try to realise that it is only SUCI, that is the only hope before the toiling millions for the fulfillment of their cherished dream of emancipation from the clutches of capitalist exploitation.

In her long penetrating speech **Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee** exhaustively explained the political situation and the task of students community. She also pointed out the heinous designs specially in the field of education, pursued by the Janata Party at the Centre and the CPI(M) led 'Left Front' at West Bengal and Tripura and the two Congress Parties and the Janata Party at different states. She urged upon the students to strengthen DSO, the only struggling instrument of the students community in our country led by the invincible thoughts of and reared by the great leader of the proletariat **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh**. Besides **Comrade Mukherjee** **Comrade Jainal Abedin** MLA and a distinguished mass leader of Assam and **Comrade Kantimay Deb** also spoke. Prof. Gopikrishna Sribastav presided over the meeting.

From the conference a strong district committee was formed with **Comrade Shajahan** as President, **Comrade Saudagar Ali** as Vice-President and **Comrade Abdul Aowal** as Secretary.

Janata CPI(M) attack on SUCI Workers in W. Bengal

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show minimum respect to basic democratic norms and principles.

Later, on 10th July, a deputation on behalf of our party met the Chief Minister, Sri Jyoti Basu to bring to the notice of the government of these incidents as also police in action to demand appropriate steps against the culprits. Comrades Manik Mukherjee, Fatick Ghosh, Debaprosad Sarkar and Aminuddin Akhand were in the deputation. After discussions, they handed over to the Chief Minister narration of facts of three concrete cases in memorandums each separately. We give here in brief the facts of those incidents.

Narayangarh PS Midnapore District

On 29th June last in Sarsha Village, Anchal No 12 of Narayangarh PS, Midnapore District a group of CPI(M) workers came armed with lethal weapons to frustrate in a planned manner the unanimously accepted and previously settled decision of settlement before the Settlement Official. At this when one young man of the village Sri Lakshmi Kanta Nandi by name protested against it the armed CPI(M) workers severely beat him. The intention was to record the names of CPI(M) loyals as share-croppers. In protest against this dastardly attack of CPI(M) workers when the people of nearby villages organised a peaceful procession, the CPI(M) rowdies armed with lethal weapons like dagger, tangi, bow and arrows, spears etc. attacked the processionists. Sri Kailash Das just escaped death by timely interception when he was on the point of being hit by tangi by a CPI(M) worker. After this show of brute force, CPI(M) people tried to extort the signatures of the villagers to the effect that the processionists were guilty of the crime. The villagers stood manly

against this mean tactics. The next day, the miscreants raided individual houses of the villagers. This also failed miserably to bow them down. The police is giving a helping hand to CPI(M) by its inaction and has not arrested a single miscreant.

Kolaghat Midnapore District

For the last few months Kolaghat Thermal Power Project Construction Workers' Union (KTPPCWU) affiliated to UTUC (Lenin Sarani) on some specific legitimate demands of their own and Land Losers Association have been carrying on movements on the demand of employment for local land losers along with other demands. The demand for giving preference to land loser families in matter of employment though accepted by the previous government is being followed more by breaches by the construction company N.B.C.C. After a mass deputation waited on the company authority on 17th June it agreed to sit with the deputationists on the issues. But previous to the date of the proposed sitting the company gave appointment to eight outsiders on 16th. When the Asst. Secretary of the Union Rajkumar Majhi went to meet the company officials he was kept confined in office room and was severely beaten by Congress and CITU unions' members in connivance with the company officials. He was later thrown outside. Police came forward at this stage to do rest of the job of arresting the victim but not the miscreants. This is the kind of 'rule of law' that is still going on in the state. But the news of arrest drew the people's determined reaction. They came in hundreds in organised demonstration in front of Tamluk PS and ultimately secured release of Majhi. They demanded arrest and stern action

against the miscreants but police is silent on this. To bring the pressure of organised public opinion, a people's convention was being held but police raided this lawful assembly where Comrade Debaprosad Sarkar, our Party's leader in the Assembly was present. Even this was not sufficient. Police arrested four of our workers Comrades Pravakar Samanta, Selim Shah, Jagannath Mondal and Murari Dogra at the instance of the District Secretary of CPI(M) who came personally there. The same night police arrested three more workers Abid Hossain Nemai Das and Asgar Hossain and thus created a reign of terror in the locality. And the whole operation was conducted and directed by the District Secretary of CPI(M) from the local BDO Office. This is the pattern that police administration is following while the Chief Minister who is also the Home minister is maintaining the public stance that none has the right to disturb or disrupt any meeting organised by any party or organisation. Perhaps here lies the difference in tactics between CPI(M) led government and the previous Congress Government of Siddhartha Sankar Roy.

Ramjhora Tea Estate Jalpaiguri District

In Ramjhora Tea Estate of Birpara PS, Jalpaiguri District there are two registered unions—one affiliated to UTUC (Lenin Sarani) and the other controlled by Janata Party. The latter union used to collect 'donations' from the workers forcibly and against their will. The workers being aggrieved sought the help of UTUC (Lenin Sarani) to bring the whole fact to the notice of OC Birpara P.S. through written complaint. On 6th July when the OC came to investigate, the workers straight way informed him that they would not contri-

CPI(M) youth leader in Madurai joins SUCI

Comrade Y. Arulanandasamy, former Assistant Secretary of the Samayanallur Unit of Socialist Youth Federation, the youth wing of the CPI(M) there, has recently resigned from CPI(M) and joined our Party, the SUCI.

In his resignation letter he stated that he was so long in the CPI(M) with the belief that it intends to bring socialism in India by revolution. He is now convinced that his belief was incorrect as he finds that the CPI(M) is nothing but an out and out parliamentary party. Realising that it is the Socialist Unity Centre of India which alone can provide a correct path of anti-capitalist socialist revolution in India he has decided to join SUCI, the statement added.

Students Lathicharged in Orissa

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under the leadership of DSO led a procession to the University campus to meet the Syndicate which was holding its meeting to discuss the situation. But, a huge police force, deployed by the authority and the Janata Government to maintain the much-acclaimed 'law and order' suddenly attacked the peaceful demonstrators, encircled them in a cordon and brutally lathicharged them. As a result more than 50 students were seriously injured. Comrade Rudra Prosad Mohanty, President, Ravenshaw College DSO Committee sustained the severest injury, his forehead and knees being fractured. Bijoy Mishra, Vice-president, Utkal University Students' Union has also been seriously injured. Both

of them had to be admitted to hospital and are passing through a critical condition.

Among others, who were seriously wounded are Comrade Bijoy Routray, Vice-president, Orissa State Council, DSO, Jagdish Mohanty, President, Vanivihar Students' Union, Srikanta Chatterjee (Ravenshaw College) Tuohar Sahoo, acting President, Ravenshaw College Students' Union etc.

Strangely, all the press discharged their duty by completely hiding the police atrocities and the facts that really happened. The press is perhaps conscious of their freedom offered by Janata Government! However, both the CPI and the CPI(M) and their student wings did not protest against this repression.

bute the Janata union. But in the presence of OC or rather emboldened by his presence, the Janata hoodlums mercilessly beat the workers causing severe injuries to 12 workers five of whom had to be hospitalised.

The miscreants brought a simultaneous grievous attack on Comrade Dilip Bhattacharjee, Secretary, Jalpaiguri District Committee of our Party and Asst. Secretary of the union who was in a meeting of the workers. The house where the meeting was being held suffered severe damages and Comrade Bhattacharjee had to be rushed to District

Hospital after this attempt of murder was made on him. What to speak of police who not only were spectators but perhaps ensured security to the miscreants!

This is the taste of 'law and order' poor and oppressed people are having and it is SUCI which alone is by their side naturally becomes the common target. But 'Left Front' spokesmen including the chief minister are boastfully claiming that in matter of 'law and order' this state's performance is best among other states. They conceal what kind of 'law and order' it is.

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